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GREAT BRITAIN.

Plague.

Minister Reid, at London, reported November 2 to the Department of State:

From September 16 to 29 there occurred at Preston in Suffolk County 4 fatal cases of a disease certified as pneumonia, but which was later bacteriologically verified as plague. The deaths occurred in a group of closely associated persons. Subsequently rats and hares from the same locality were examined and found to be infected with plague. Every effort is being made to destroy rats, especially those in stables, slaughterhouses, bakeries, granaries, and in receptacles for domestic refuse. No suspicious cases have occurred since September 26.

HAWAII.

Last case of human plague at Honolulu occurred July 12, 1910.

The last plague-infected rat was found at Aiea, 9 miles from Honolulu, April 12, 1910.

At Hilo the last case of human plague occurred March 23, 1910.

The last plague-infected rat was found at Piihuona, 4 miles from Hilo, April 9, 1910.

Passed Assistant Surgeon Ramus reports, October 24 and 31:

HONOLULU.

Week ended October 22, 1910.

Total rats and mongoose taken.....	733
Rats trapped.....	670
Mongoose trapped.....	13
Rats found dead (<i>Mus norvegicus</i>).....	1
Rats shot from trees.....	49
Examined bacteriologically.....	636
Under examination.....	0
Plague rats.....	0
Classification of rats trapped:	
<i>Mus alexandrinus</i>	113
<i>Mus musculus</i>	209
<i>Mus norvegicus</i>	56
<i>Mus rattus</i>	292
Classification of rats shot from trees:	
<i>Mus alexandrinus</i>	7
<i>Mus rattus</i>	37
Average number of traps set daily.....	1,720

Week ended October 29, 1910.

Total rats and mongoose taken.....	795
Rats trapped.....	711
Mongoose trapped.....	12
Rat found dead (<i>Mus norvegicus</i>).....	1
Rats shot from trees.....	47
Rats killed by sulphur dioxide.....	24
Examined bacteriologically.....	600
Under examination (<i>Mus musculus</i>).....	1
Plague rats.....	0

Classification of rats trapped:

<i>Mus alexandrinus</i>	122
<i>Mus musculus</i>	178
<i>Mus norvegicus</i>	59
<i>Mus rattus</i>	264

Classification of rats shot from trees:

<i>Mus alexandrinus</i>	22
<i>Mus rattus</i>	20

Classification of rats killed by sulphur dioxide:

<i>Mus alexandrinus</i>	16
<i>Mus rattus</i>	8

Average number of traps set daily..... 1,720

INDIA.

Bombay—Plague, Cholera, and Smallpox in 1909.

Consul Dennison reports, October 16:

During the year 1909 no disease was present in epidemic form, with the exception of plague.

The number of deaths from plague declined from 18,185 in 1898 to 13,285 in 1900; from 18,736 in 1901 to 13,820 in 1902; from 20,788 in 1903 to 13,538 in 1904; from 14,198 in 1905 to 10,823 in 1906; and from 6,398 in 1907 to 5,197 in 1909, the lowest on record since the beginning of plague, the decline being progressive and uninterrupted since 1906.

The number of deaths registered from all causes during the year was 34,878, giving the death rate of 35.66 per 1,000 living, against 38,271, with the death rate of 39.13 in 1908. There were thus 3,393 deaths fewer than in the previous year and 9,176 less than the average of the preceding five years.

Never before since the appearance of plague in the city has there been recorded such a low total mortality, the contribution of plague to which was also the lowest on record, being 5,197, against 5,361 in 1908.

It will, however, be found from the statement of plague attacks and deaths in the different years that, in spite of the steady shrinkage of plague as a cause of death from year to year, there has not been a concurrent abatement in the virulence of the disease, as evidenced by the recorded case mortality which, with annual fluctuations, stood for 1909 at 88.62 per cent, next only to that for 1901 (89.19) and 1903 (89.05), which were most fatal years in the history of the disease, recording, respectively, 18,736 and 20,788 deaths.

Table showing the number of attacks and deaths from plague registered since 1896.

Year.	Number of plague attacks.	Number of plague deaths.	Death rate from plague per 1,000 of population.	Percentage of deaths to attacks.
1896	2,544	1,936	2.36	76.10
1897	13,314	11,002	13.39	82.64
1898	22,130	18,185	22.12	82.17
1899	19,451	15,796	19.22	81.20
1900	17,913	13,285	16.16	74.16
1901	21,006	18,736	24.14	89.19
1902	16,423	13,820	17.80	84.15
1903	23,344	20,788	26.78	89.05
1904	15,488	13,538	17.44	87.40
1905	16,308	14,198	18.29	87.06
1906	12,323	10,823	11.06	87.82
1907	7,353	6,389	6.53	86.88
1908	6,134	5,361	5.48	87.39
1909	5,864	5,197	5.31	88.62